

ABAC Meeting Presentation

01-20-21

Daniel Amstutz, Town of Arlington

Items in this Presentation

1. MBTA Forging Ahead
2. Transportation Bond Bill
3. Connect Arlington
4. Bike Parking
5. Bike Friendly Community Application
6. Bluebikes update
7. MassTrails Grant Application

MBTA Forging Ahead Initiative

- Despite opposition, most cutbacks went through
- Impacts on Arlington:
 - Bus:
 - Suspend Routes 79 & 80
 - Combine Routes 62 & 76 and 78 & 84
 - Reduced frequency likely for all other bus routes (67, 77, 87, 95, 350)
 - Reduced frequency on Red Line
 - Reduced hours on Commuter Rail, no weekend service
- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/Home/Components/News/News/10684/16?npage=2>
- Bus changes to go into effect in spring; commuter rail changes go into effect Jan. 23

Transportation Bond Bill

- Signed into law by Gov. Baker last Friday, Jan. 15
- Includes bond projects related to Arlington:
 - 2,468,000 for roadway, bike lane and sidewalk reconstruction and improvement
 - \$500,000 to implement neighborhood traffic calming
 - \$300,000 for a BRT pilot on Broadway in Arlington & Somerville
 - \$7 million for roadway design and reconstruction on Mass Ave from Pond Street (sic) to Bartlett Ave
 - \$8 million for construction of a parking facility at Arlington Center and Russell Common
 - \$75,000 for ped safety improvements on Lowell St by the Res
 - \$5 million for maintenance and improvements to the Minuteman Bike Path, Alewife Linear Park, Fitchburg Cutoff Bike path, in the towns of Arlington, Bedford, Lexington, and the City Cambridge
 - Feasibility Study for extending the Red Line to Arlington

Transportation Bond Bill

- The Governor vetoed the following from the bill:
 - Increases in TNC (Uber/Lyft) fees
 - Implementation of means-tested fares on the MBTA
 - Barring toll increases to pay for the Allston Multimodal Project
 - A provision to have funds from the transportation climate initiative go to the Commonwealth Transportation Fund (leaving it uncertain as to where the funds will go)
 - Commission to study congestion pricing
- Read more at Commonwealth Magazine:
<https://commonwealthmagazine.org/transportation/baker-vetoes-key-policy-initiatives-in-transportation-bond-bill/>
- Or WBUR for a history of the bill:
<https://www.wbur.org/news/2021/01/06/lawmakers-send-baker-16-5-billion-transportation-bond>

Connect Arlington

- Nelson/Nygaard organizing comments from survey, forum, STPAC, Town staff
- Next iteration to be available in a few weeks



Capital Funding for Bicycle Parking

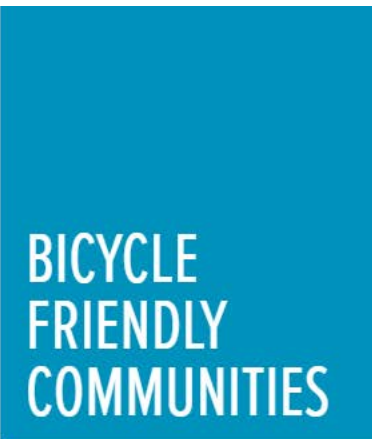
- Annual Town Meeting approved \$25,000 capital funds for bike parking in FY 2021
- Progress slowed by holidays and other priorities
- Most progress on the following locations:
 - Hill's Hill playground
 - Hurd Field (in association with Bikeway to Res connector)
 - Bishop Elementary School

Bike Friendly Community Application

- BFC Application due February 10
- Assistance from Phil Goff, Town staff, reaching out to others



Ride in San Luis Obispo, Calif. Photo by Leslie Bloom.



SHARE THIS [f](#) [t](#) [g+](#) [in](#) [e](#)

Bike Friendly Community Application

- Questions for ABAC members – crowdsource info:
 - **B17. Within the last five years, has your community ever removed a bicycle facility without an improved replacement?**
 - **C4. Outside of schools, how are children and youth taught safe cycling skills?**
 - **C7. Which of the following information is shared using the methods checked above?**
 - **D9. Are any of the following organized cycling clubs/groups active in your community?**
 - **G1. What are the *top three* reasons your community has made bicycling a priority?**

Bluebikes Update

- On-street Bluebikes stations removed from Arlington November 23
- Thorndike Field/Magnolia Park/Bikeway station only operational station over winter
 - Only about 50 trips taken so far in January
- Approximately 1,950 trips in Arlington since operations began in September (up from about 1,000 trips in mid-October)
- Bluebikes due to increase pricing on February 8



Bluebikes Update

2021 Price Changes

Product	Current	New
Annual	\$99	\$109
Corporate annual	\$70	\$80
Monthly	\$20	\$25
Single trip	\$2.50	\$2.95
Explorer pass	\$10	\$10

24.2. Maximum Subscriber Fees After Increase. Upon Equipment Acceptance of the first twenty (20) Stations and Bicycles from the Guaranteed Capital Equipment, Motivate may increase the maximum allowable Subscriber fees (not including usage fees, lost bike fees, or other incidental fees) as follows:

Subscriber Type	Maximum Fee	Installment Option
Standard Subscriptions		
Annual subscription	\$125	\$12.50 per month, with 12-month commitment (total of \$150)
Monthly subscription	\$25	None
24-hour subscription	\$9.99	None
Group Subscriptions		
Champion	\$70 (\$0 by group member; \$70 by Subscriber)	None
Gold	\$90 (\$90 by group member; \$0 by Subscriber)	None
Silver	\$100 (\$50 by group member; \$50 by Subscriber)	None
Bronze	\$100 (\$25 by group member;	None

MassTrails Grant

- Grant applications due February 1
- Requesting funds to study possible trail connection between Mystic River Path and Minuteman Bikeway
- Support from Mystic River Watershed Association, City of Medford, Lawrence & Lillian Solomon Foundation
 - Included in MyRWA plans, MAPC Landlines network, Friends of the Community Path, connects to DCR plans for paths in Mystic Reservation
- Letter of support from ABAC?

